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Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

"(a) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

"(b) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

"(c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

"(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

"(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

"(f) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons"

was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 57/87, 57/88, 57/89, 57/91 and 57/92 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on al disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and

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from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV.16-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (A/58/122);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (A/58/139);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (A/58/177);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (A/58/190).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.7

5. At the 14th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Costa Rica, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean" (A/C.1/58/L.7).

6. At the 18th meeting, on 29 October, the Secretary of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.7, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.1/58/L.55).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.7 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.13

8. At the 13th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa" (A/C.1/58/L.13).

9. At its 17th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.13 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.21

10. At the 14th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Nepal, on behalf of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, China, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, the Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific" (A/C.1/58/L.21). Subsequently, Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Japan, Nauru, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

11. At the 18th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Nepal orally revised the draft resolution by inserting the words "in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 25 to 27 September 2002," before the words "on Jeju Island" in the fifth preambular paragraph.

12. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.21, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.1/58/L.57).

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.21, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.28

14. At the 14th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Malaysia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament" (A/C.1/58/L.28).

15. At the 19th meeting, on 30 October, the Secretary of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.28, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.1/58/L.59).

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.28 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.36

17. At the 12th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of India, on behalf of Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Nepal, Solomon Islands, the Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia, introduced a draft entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (A/C.1/58/L.36). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Myanmar and Papua New Guinea joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At its 16th meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.36 by a recorded vote of 102 to 46, with 10 abstentions (see para. 23, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine.

F. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.54 and Rev.1

19. At the 13th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of the Central African Republic, on behalf of Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa" (A/C.1/58/L.54). Subsequently, Cameroon, Chad, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

20. At the 21st meeting, on 4 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/58/L.54/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.54, in which two new subparagraphs were added to operative paragraph 4, reading:

"(c) Holding the 'Biyongho 2003' military peacekeeping exercise at Franceville, Gabon, from 21 to 28 July 2003;

"(d) Holding the twentieth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Malabo from 27 to 31 October 2003."

21. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.54/Rev.1 (see A/C.1/58/PV.21).

22. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.54/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VI).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

23. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000, 56/25 E of 29 November 2001 and 57/89 of 22 November 2002,

Underlining the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru and other countries to that end, as well as the important work done by the Director of the Centre,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to act as an instrument for the implementation of regional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and security,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[1] which concludes that the Regional Centre also acts as a facilitator for the implementation of regional initiatives by identifying regional security needs and new areas of cooperation with States and organizations in the region, by providing more in-depth information on firearms matters, including training for the law enforcement community and non-governmental organizations on such matters, and by promoting the dissemination of information on security issues among diplomats, the military, non-governmental organizations and civil society,

[1] A/58/122.

Welcoming also that the report stresses that the Regional Centre has initiated a new level of activity in the important area of disarmament and development, and encouraging the Centre to further develop this activity,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[2] is now in force for the sovereign States of the region, and that this fact will be officially acknowledged by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, at its eighteenth session, to be held at Havana on 5 and 6 November 2003,

Bearing in mind the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Also bearing in mind the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources and cooperation for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction and congratulates* the Regional Centre for the expansion of the vast range of activities carried out last year in the field of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the Regional Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the field of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as the relationship between disarmament and development;

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

6. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development pursuant to General Assembly resolution 57/65 of 22 November 2002, whose report, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, will be of utmost interest for the role the Regional Centre plays in promoting those issues in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament;

7. *Highlights* the conclusion of the Secretary-General that the Regional Centre has demonstrated, in a concrete manner, the role of the Organization as a regional catalyst for peace and disarmament in assisting countries in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean;[3]

8. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make and increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

[3] A/58/122, para. 39.

Draft resolution II
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001 and 57/91 of 22 November 2002,

Aware of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[1] that the Centre has received an increasing number of requests from Member States in the African region for substantive support for several peace initiatives and conflict resolution activities in the region,

Taking note also of the report by the Secretary-General[2] that very limited financial contributions were made to the Centre despite continued fund-raising efforts,

Concerned that the continued financial difficulties faced by the Centre have impaired its ability to realize its full potential and to fulfil its mandate adequately,

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the African Union, in conformity with the decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[3]

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[1] A/58/139.

[2] See A/58/139, para. 46.

[3] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.138 (XXXV). On 8 July 2002, the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the report of the United Nations First Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 7 to 11 July 2003,[4]

1. *Commends* the activities which the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa is continuing to carry out, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with the necessary resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Appeals in particular* to the Regional Centre, in cooperation with the African Union, regional and subregional organizations and the African States, to take steps to promote the consistent implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[5]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

[4] A/CONF.192/BMS/2003/1.

[5] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

Draft resolution III
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[1] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre has been a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation for peace and disarmament in the region,

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of meetings and conferences in the region, held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 25 to 27 September 2002, on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 3 to 5 December 2002, in Bali, Indonesia, on 10 and 11 February 2003 and on 14 and 15 February 2003, in Kanazawa, Japan, from 10 to 12 June 2003 and in Osaka, Japan, from 19 to 22 August 2003,[1]

Welcoming the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its continued assistance in finalizing a treaty related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,[1] as well as to Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status, including the organization of an informal consultation among relevant United Nations bodies in January 2003 to discuss the status of implementation of the non-nuclear aspects of Mongolia's status,[1]

Appreciating highly the overall support that Nepal has extended as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

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[1] A/58/190.

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months of the date of signature of the host country agreement and to enable the Centre to function effectively;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

Draft resolution IV
United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/87 of 22 November 2002 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[1] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[2] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[4]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,[5]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

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[1] A/58/139.
[2] A/58/190.
[3] A/58/122.
[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.
[5] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the regional branch of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

Draft resolution V
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[1]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] whose twenty-fifth anniversary is being marked this year, it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2003 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 57/94 of 22 November 2002,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

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[1] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[2] See resolution S-10/2.

Draft resolution VI
Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of 15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997, 53/78 A of 4 December 1998, 54/55 A of 1 December 1999, 55/34 B of 20 November 2000, 56/25 A of 29 November 2001 and 57/88 of 22 November 2002,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recalling the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[1] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa,[2] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[3]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[4]

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[1] A/50/474, annex I.
[2] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.
[3] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.
[4] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

Recalling the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 57/88;[5]

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 2002-2003, in particular by:

(a) Holding a seminar on the implementation in the Central African region of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[6] at Brazzaville from 12 to 14 May 2003;

(b) Holding the nineteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Brazzaville from 14 to 17 May 2003;

(c) Holding the "Biyongho 2003" military peacekeeping exercise at Franceville, Gabon, from 21 to 28 July 2003;

(d) Holding the twentieth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Malabo from 27 to 31 October 2003;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for

[5] A/58/177.

[6] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early warning mechanism;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

12. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

13. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

14. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for sending a multidisciplinary assessment mission to the Central African region from 8 to 22 June 2003 for the purposes of identifying priority needs and challenges confronting the subregion, in particular focusing on issues of peace, security, economic development, humanitarian questions, human rights and HIV/AIDS;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

United Nations A/58/464

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 November 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 75

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

"(a) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

"(b) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

"(c) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

"(d) Report of the Conference on Disarmament"

was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984 and 57/95 and 57/96 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft

03-60733 (E) 141103

resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV.16-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;[1]

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2003;[2]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/58/316);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/58/259).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.5

5. At the 14th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Japan introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/58/L.5).

6. At its 17th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.5 without a vote (see para. 9, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.20

7. At the 15th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Nepal, on behalf of Algeria, Brazil, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Guatemala, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Nepal and Venezuela introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/58/L.20).

8. At its 18th meeting, on 29 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.20 without a vote (see para. 9, draft resolution II).

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/58/27).

[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 42* (A/58/42).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

9. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Taking note of active discussions held on the programme of work during the 2003 session of the Conference, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings,

Taking note also of significant contributions made during the 2003 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda in the plenary meetings, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference to commence substantive work on its agreed agenda items at this juncture,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2004 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, including that contained in CD/1693/Rev.1, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations, as expressed in paragraph 38 of its report;[1]

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/58/27).

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work in its 2004 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

Draft resolution II
Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001 and 57/95 of 22 November 2002,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[3]

5. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission consider the following items at its 2004 substantive session:

(a) [To be determined];

(b) [To be determined];

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2004, namely, from 5 to 23 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/58/42).
[2] See resolution S-10/2.
[3] A/CN.10/137.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[4] together with all the official records of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/58/27).

United Nations A/58/465

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 76

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 57/97 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV.16-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Consolidated report of the Secretary-General on items 70 and 76 (A/58/137 (Part I) and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and A/58/137 (Part II));

(b) Letter dated 3 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the final communiqué of the annual coordination meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held at United Nations Headquarters on 30 September 2003 (A/58/415-S/2003/952).

03-60740 (E) 181103

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.23

5. At the 14th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" (A/C.1/58/L.23).

6. At its 20th meeting, on 3 November, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.23 as follows:

(a) The sixth preambular paragraph was adopted by a recorded vote of 142 to 2, with 11 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

India, Israel.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Vanuatu.

(b) Draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.23, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 146 to 3, with 10 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China,

Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Ethiopia, India, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Vanuatu.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(47)/RES/13, adopted on 19 September 2003,[1]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

[1] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-seventh Regular Session, 15-19 September 2003* (GC(47)/RES/DEC(2003)).

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[2] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,[3]

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[4] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[5]

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on

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[2] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[3] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article IX".

[4] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and sixty-nine States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[6] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[7]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[5] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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[6] See resolution 50/245.

[7] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 16.

United Nations A/58/466

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 77

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 57/98 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV. 2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV. 16-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/58/163).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.50

5. At the 13th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects" (A/C.1/58/L.50). Subsequently, Fiji, India, Mali, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Solomon Islands, Ukraine and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At its 17th meeting, on 28 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.50 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/98 of 22 November 2002 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[1]

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[1] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[1] and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[1] which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Also recalling with satisfaction the adoption by the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[2] and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[3] which entered into force on 30 July 1998 and 3 December 1998 respectively,

Welcoming the results of the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[4] and commending the efforts of the President of the Conference,

Recalling with satisfaction the decision by the Second Review Conference, on 21 December 2001, to extend the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character,[4]

Recalling the decision by the Second Review Conference to commission follow-up work under the oversight of the Chairman-designate of a meeting of States parties to the Convention and in this context the decision to establish an open-ended group of governmental experts with two separate coordinators on explosive remnants of war and on mines other than anti-personnel mines,[4]

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[1] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[2] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex A.

[3] Ibid., annex B.

[4] CCW/CONF.II/2 and Corr.1, part II.

Welcoming the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention and to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV, as well as accessions to the amendment of article I of the Convention, as adopted in 2001,[4]

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Noting that the rules of procedure of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II provide for the invitation of States not parties to the Protocol, the International Committee of the Red Cross and interested non-governmental organizations to take part in the Conference,

Welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

Welcoming also the results of the Fourth Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, held at Geneva on 11 December 2002,[5]

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, as well as the amendment of article I extending the scope of the Convention,[4] with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to notify the depositary at an early date of their consent to be bound by the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;[4]

4. *Notes* the decision of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention held on 12 and 13 December 2002[6] that the Working Group on Explosive Remnants of War would continue its work in the year 2003 with the mandate to negotiate an instrument on post-conflict remedial measures of a generic nature that would reduce the risks of explosive remnants of war and to explore and determine whether these negotiations could successfully address preventive generic measures for improving the reliability of munitions and, separate from these negotiations, to continue to consider the implementation of existing principles of international humanitarian law and to further study, on an open-ended basis, possible preventive measures aimed at improving the design of certain specific types of munitions, including sub-munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian risk of these munitions' becoming explosive remnants of war;[7]

5. *Also notes* the decision of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention that the Working Group on Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines

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[5] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.4/3 (Part I).

[6] See CCW/MSP/2002/2.

[7] Ibid., para. 21.

would continue its work in the year 2003 with the mandate to explore the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines, and consider the most appropriate way to reduce the risks posed by the irresponsible use of mines other than anti-personnel mines, including the possibility of concluding a negotiating mandate for a new instrument and other appropriate measures, taking into account the issues specified in the decision;[8]

6. *Further notes* the decision of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention that the Chairman-designate should continue to undertake consultations during the intersessional period on possible options to promote compliance with the Convention and the Protocols thereto, taking into account proposals put forward;[9]

7. *Expresses support* for the work conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts, and encourages the Chairman-designate and the Group to conduct work expeditiously with a view to submitting a possible proposal for an instrument on explosive remnants of war to States parties for consideration at their meeting on 27 and 28 November 2003 and with a view to submitting to the States parties' reports on mines other than anti-personnel mines and on compliance;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to be held on 27 and 28 November 2003, as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Meeting, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

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[8] Ibid., para. 22.

[9] Ibid., para. 23.

United Nations A/58/467

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 78

Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 57/99 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV.16-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/58/132 and Add.1 and 2).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.42

5. At the 15th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy,

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Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region" (A/C.1/58/L.42). Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, France, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Slovakia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 18th meeting, on 29 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.42 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Draft resolution
Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 57/99 of 22 November 2002,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[1]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

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[1] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[3]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States,

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[2] A/58/132 and Add.1 and 2.

[3] See resolution 46/36 L.

hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 79

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 57/100 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV.16-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization covering the year 2002 (A/58/385).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.52

5. At the 11th meeting, on 20 October, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, the Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany,

03-60885 (E) 201103

Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty" (A/C.1/58/L.52). Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Romania, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Ukraine and Vanuatu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 16th meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.52 by a recorded vote of 151 to 1, with 4 abstentions (see para.7). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstentions:

Colombia, India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and sixty-nine States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of one hundred and seven States, including thirty-two of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 57/100 of 22 November 2002,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the third Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held at Vienna from 3 to 5 September 2003,[1] pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty,

1. *Stresses* the importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular to its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Urges* States to maintain their moratoria on nuclear-weapons test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, pending the entry into force of the Treaty;

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to refrain from acts that would defeat its object and purpose in the meanwhile;

[1] CTBT — Art. XIV/2003/5, annex I.

5. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to their earliest successful conclusion;

6. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 80

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Miguel **Carbo** (Ecuador)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly decision 57/516 of 22 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2003, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 62 to 80, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 6 to 10 and from 13 to 16 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 15th meetings, from 20 to 24 October (see A/C.1/58/PV.11-15). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 16th to 23rd meetings, from 27 to 30 October and from 3 to 6 November (see A/C.1/58/PV. 16-23).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.37

5. At the 12th meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Hungary introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development,

03-60726 (E) 141103

Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction" (A/C.1/58/L.37). Subsequently, Argentina joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution.

7. At its 16th meeting, on 27 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/58/L.37 without a vote (see para.8)

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and fifty States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1] including all of the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[2] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference[3] that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recalling the decision reached at the Fifth Review Conference to hold three annual meetings of the States parties of one week duration each year commencing in 2003 until the Sixth Review Conference and to hold a two-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,[4]

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1] reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

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[1] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.
[2] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.
[3] BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.
[4] BWC/CONF.V/17, para. 18.

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[2]

3. *Recalls* the decision reached at the Fifth Review Conference,[4] and calls upon the States parties to the Convention to participate in its implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all necessary assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".